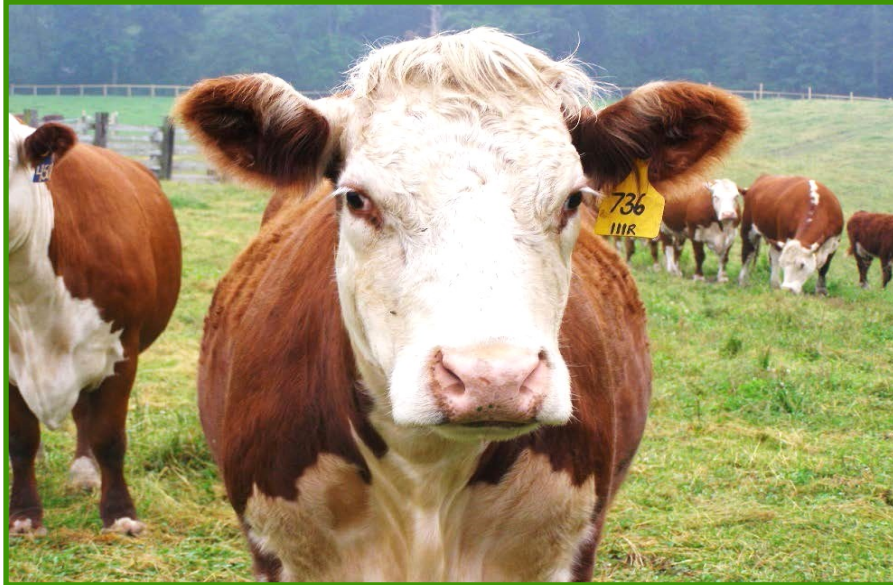


Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner
Steve Jensen, Editor



Connecticut Department of Agriculture
April 14, 2015



GROW CONNECTICUT FARMS

Developing, Diversifying, and Promoting Agriculture
*A Project of the Governor's Council for
Agricultural Development*

www.GrowConnecticutFarms.com

The Department of Agriculture would become the state's lead agency on food-safety issues; expand its Connecticut Grown marketing capabilities; revitalize the Hartford Regional Market; create an agricultural innovation center and expand agricultural education offerings under the latest recommendations of the Governor's Council for Agricultural Development (GCAD).

The suggested actions are included in the council's recent update to Grow Connecticut Farms, the first ever long-range, strategic plan for Connecticut agriculture.

Chaired by Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky, the council's overarching goals are to make recommendations to the Department of Agriculture on ways to:

- Increase the percentage of consumer dollars spent on Connecticut Grown fresh produce and farm products to not less than five per cent of all money spent by state residents on food by 2020.
- Develop, diversify and promote agricultural products, programs, and enterprises and provide for an interchange of ideas from the various commodity groups and organizations represented.

"Members of GCAD have offered many meaningful recommendations to grow Connecticut farms and improve our state's food-producing system," Reviczky said. "Their work has created an important blueprint that our elected leaders and officials can use to increase agricultural production and jobs in Connecticut."

In 2014, GCAD organized into four working groups to address specific focus areas:

Food Safety Modernization: Co-Chairs: George Hindinger, Jason Hoagland, and Michael Keilty.

Infrastructure and Wholesale Markets: Co-Chairs: Herb Holden and Shelly Oechsler.

Producer Education and Innovation: Co-Chairs: Jamie Jones and Kevin Sullivan.

Marketing: Co-Chairs: Allyn Brown, Jim Guida, and Peter Orr.

After those groups met several times, the full council reconvened throughout the remainder of the year to review findings and develop the following five additional recommendations:

Invest strategically in the state-owned Hartford Regional Market to revitalize this regional, state, and local food hub and provide code-compliant, modern facilities for aggregation, processing, storage, distribution, and sale of Connecticut Grown farm products.

As the largest fresh food distribution facility between Boston and New York, the market currently realizes about \$210 million in annual gross sales and contributes more than 450 jobs to Connecticut's economy while providing fresh, nutritious food to the local community and the entire region from its wholesale warehouse space and a large outdoor farmers' market.

With demand for fresh, local food and other farm products continuing to rise, the state has recognized the opportunity to revolutionize the Hartford Regional Market into a vibrant hub that can continue to serve the community, state, and region for generations.

Today's processing, aggregation, storage, distribution, and sale
(Continued on Page 3)

PA LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Avg. Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:

breakers 75-80% lean	102.50	107.25
boners 80-85% lean	100.00	105.25
lean 85-90% lean	96.25	101.50

CALVES graded bull

No 1 95-120lbs	475.75	526.25
No 1 80-90lbs	474.00	535.00
No 2 95-120lbs	435.25	486.75
No 2 80-90lbs	479.00	511.00
No 3 80-120lbs	363.00	444.50

SLAUGHTER STEERS

HiCh/Prm2-3	160.50	164.50
Ch1-3	158.00	160.75
Sel1-2	151.00	155.00

SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS

HiCh/Prm2-3	159.50	162.00
Ch2-3	138.75	143.00
Sel1-2	135.50	139.25

SLAUGHTER HEIFERS

HiCh/Prm2-3	159.50	162.00
Ch1-3	151.50	155.00
Sel1-2	149.50	151.50

VEALERS Utility 60-120lb**SLAUGHTER LAMBS: ch/pr 2-3**

40-60 lbs	282.00	335.00
60-70 lbs	260.00	280.00
80-90 lbs	227.00	232.00
90-130 lbs	222.00	230.00

SLAUGHTER EWES: 2-3

120-160 lbs Good	120.00	120.00
160-200 lbs Good	112.00	124.00

BUCKS

120-160 lbs	60.00	145.00
160-200 lbs	87.00	90.00
200-300 lbs	96.00	106.00

SLAUGHTER GOATS: Sel.1, by head, est.

20-40 lbs	80.00	110.00
40-60 lbs	125.00	170.00
60-80 lbs	180.00	225.00
Nannies/Does:80-130 lbs	180.00	260.00
Bucks/Billies:80-100 lbs	225.00	290.00
100-150 lbs	300.00	375.00

**NEW HOLLAND, PA.
HOG AUCTION**

Prices quoted by hundred wt.

48-52	200-400 lbs	35.00	39.00
52-56	200-300 lbs	41.00	48.00
	300-350 lbs	37.00	41.00
	350-400 lbs	32.50	34.50
Sows, US1-3			
	400-500 lbs	24.00	30.00
	500-700 lbs	31.00	35.50
Boars	250-300 lbs	28.00	34.00
	300-400 lbs	18.00	20.00
	450-650 lbs	12.00	14.00

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES**NEW ENGLAND GROWN****Boston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices**

	LOW	HIGH
ALFALFA SPROUTS, 5LB	14.00	14.00
APPLE, MACS, 120, USFCY	18.00	18.00
APPLE, MACS, 120 US#1	17.00	18.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 12-12OZ	12.00	15.00
CIDER, APPLE 4-1 GAL	24.00	24.00
LETTUCE, HYDROPONIC, 12/CS	15.00	15.00
PARSNIPS, 25LB	24.00	30.00
SQUASH, BTTRNT, 1-1/9 BU	12.00	14.00
TOMATOES, 25LB, GRHSE, VR	21.00	21.00
TOMS, CHRRY, GHS, 5LB	14.00	15.00

SHIPPED IN

APPLE, RED DEL, NY, 88, USXFCY	22.00	22.00
APPLE, FUJI, 88, PA, USXFCY	20.00	20.00
ASPARAGUS, CA, JBO, 11LB	36.00	38.00
BEANS, GREEN, FL, BU, MCHPK	22.00	24.00
BEETS, GOLD, TX, 12	18.00	22.00
BLUEBERRIES, FL, 12-4.4OZ	18.00	18.00
BOK CHOY, NJ, 30LB	30.00	32.00
BROCCOLI, CA, 20 LB, CRWNS	15.00	19.00
CARROTS, CA, 16-3LB	21.00	23.00
CABBAGE, CHINESE, FL, 50LB	16.00	18.00
CORN, BICOLOR, FL, 4DZ	16.00	18.00
CUKES, FL, 1-1/9 BU,	20.00	24.00
LETTUCE, OAKLEAF, CA, 2.2LB	11.00	13.00
MESCLUN MIX, CA, 3LB	6.00	6.50
ORANGES, NAVEL, CA, 88	21.00	23.00
PEAR, D'ANJOU, OR, US#1, 120	34.00	34.00
PEPPERS, GRN, FL, LG, 1-1/9BU	20.00	24.00
RASPBERRIES, CA 6-12OZ	24.00	24.00
RHUBARB, WA, 20LB	42.00	42.00
SWEET POTATOES, LA, 40LB	16.00	20.00
SWISS CHARD, GA, 12/CTN	16.00	16.00

USDA DAIRY**NORTHEAST/RETAIL**

BUTTER, 1LB	2.49	3.99
CHEESE, NATURAL, 8OZ	1.49	2.99
CHEESE, NAT, 1# SHRED	3.99	3.99
COTTAGE CHEESE, 16OZ	1.99	2.69
CREAM CHEESE, 8OZ	.99	2.39
ICE CREAM, 48-64OZ	1.98	3.99
MILK, ALL, GAL	3.49	3.69
SOUR CREAM, 16OZ	1.19	2.50
YOGURT, GREEK, 4-6OZ	.88	1.25
YOGURT, GREEK 32 OZ	5.99	5.99

USDA BEEF**NORTHEAST/RETAIL PER LB**

RIBEYE STEAK, B/IN	10.99	12.99
RIB EYE ROAST, BNLS	8.99	15.99
PORTERHOUSE STEAK	8.99	10.99
NY STRIP STEAK, BNLS	5.97	15.99
SIRLOIN ROAST	7.99	7.99
SIRLOIN ROAST, BNLS	4.99	4.99
BOTTOM ROUND ROAST	3.99	5.99
TOP ROUND STEAK	5.49	5.49
LONDON BROIL	3.99	10.99
BRISKET	2.99	7.99
CUBE STEAKS	4.99	5.49
STEW MEAT	4.99	5.49
BEEF PATTIES	6.45	6.45
GROUND BEEF, 90%	5.99	6.99
GROUND BEEF, 80-89%	4.49	4.49
SKIRT STEAK	9.99	9.99

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT., April 13, 2015

Bob Calves:	LOW	HIGH
45-60 lbs.	55.00	65.00
61-75 lbs.	180.00	190.00
76-90 lbs.	430.00	440.00
91-105 lbs.	450.00	460.00
106 lbs. & up	470.00	480.00
Farm Calves	490.00	500.00
Starter Calves	50.00	55.00
Veal Calves	155.00	190.00
Open Heifers	165.00	195.00
Beef Heifers	116.00	127.50
Feeder Steers	150.00	205.00
Beef Steers	138.00	145.00
Stock Bulls	145.00	170.00
Beef Bulls	137.00	150.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Feeder Pigs	n/a	n/a
Sheep	110.00	125.00
Lambs	170.00	180.00
Goats each	45.00	220.00
Kid Goats	55.00	75.00
Canners	up to	111.00
Cutters	112.00	115.00
Utility Grade Cows	116.00	120.00
Rabbits each	5.00	25.00
Chickens each	3.00	30.00
Ducks each	10.00	20.00

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDAPer doz. Grade A and Grade A white
in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	1.10	1.30
LARGE	1.04	1.18
MEDIUM	.81	.94

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGSPer doz. Grade A brown in
carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	1.80	2.17
LARGE	1.74	1.93
MEDIUM	1.28	1.44

PA FEEDER PIG SUMMARY

US # 1-2 30-40 lb	200.00	240.00
60-80 lb	85.00	110.00

HAY**LANCASTER, PA/PER TON**

	PREMIUM	GOOD
ALFALFA	235.00-350.00	190.00-215.00
MIXED HAY	225.00-420.00	180.00-220.00
TIMOTHY	225.00-300.00	185.00-210.00
STRAW	120.00-205.00	N/A
GRASS	N/A	185.00-390.00

FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com.

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com.

3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.

4-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

5-R. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program, endorsed by the CT Farm Bureau, save up to 23% on your farm insurance and get better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call Marci today at 203-444-6553.

8-R. CT non-GMO grain and corn. Hay and straw. Pleasant View Farms. Louis. 860-803-0675.

27-R. Irrigation Pump on trailer--Yanmar Diesel-liquid cooled-3cyl -21.5hp/Rainbow SBB 4x3x9.5 pump/Primer with 4" SCAN-Kleen Filter, 4" Foot Valve and 170 Feet of 4"HPDE Suction Pipe. Used one season in 2012-excellent condition. Cost new was \$12,400. Reasonable offers considered. Mark after 6pm. 860-977-6948.

29-R. First cutting hay for sale. \$5.00 / bale. 860-881-4219.

30. Pixall Bean Sorting Table. \$2,200.00. Wood splitter. \$650.00. Windsor area. Call Donald at 860-982-0672.

WANTED

28-R. Used or new gutter cleaner 14" links for Patz barn cleaner and used or new fertilizer hopper for no. 56 International 2 row corn planter. Call 203-735-2862.

MISCELLANEOUS

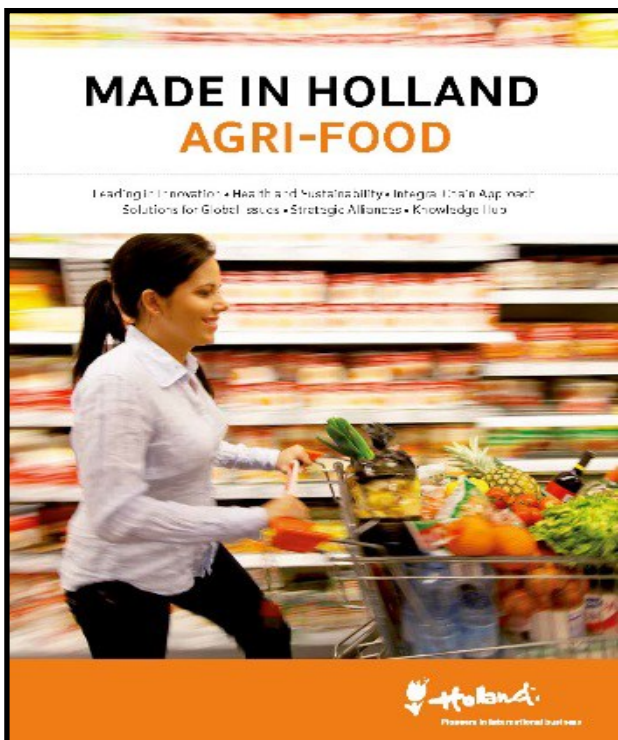
6-R. Farm/Land specializing in land, farms, and all types of Real Estate. Established Broker with a lifetime of agricultural experience and 40 years of finance. Representing both Buyers and Sellers. Call Clint Charter of Wallace-Tustin Realty (860) 644-5667.

UPDATED PICK-YOUR-OWN FARMS ONLINE LISTING

The Department of Agriculture is currently updating the PYO listings for 2015.

PYO farms are strongly encouraged to participate in this free online listing. This is an affordable and easy way to expand your marketing efforts and increase direct sales. A

The application form is available on the agency website at: www.ct.gov/doag/cwp/view.asp?a=3243&q=430982 or contact Jane.Slupecki@ct.gov or 860-713-2588 for more information.

**(Continued from Page 1)**

of food and farm products require enhanced vertical space, efficient cooling, effective sanitation, safe flow patterns for multiple modes of traffic, and inviting venues for both retail and wholesale customers.

These features do not exist at the current facility - built in the late 1940s and early 1950s - but are critical for the market to continue serving Hartford, Connecticut, and the Northeast.

In 2013, the Connecticut departments of Agriculture and Construction Services teamed up with the country's premier planner of public and terminal markets to develop a comprehensive, detailed master plan for the 32-acre facility.

The master plan estimates that this project will create 2,324 jobs, increase earnings to \$108 million, and increase output to \$404 million in the first year, with a 10-year economic impact of \$2.36 billion.

Resources now are needed to proceed with the project's next steps, which include development of the architectural, engineering, and site design necessary for the construction phase.

Streamline implementation of the federal Food Safety Modernization Act by designating the Connecticut Department of Agriculture as the lead agency in the state responsible for regulating food production, processing, handling, and transport.

Food safety in Connecticut currently is regulated by three different state departments--Agriculture (DoAg), Consumer Protection (DCP), and Public Health (DPH); two federal agencies--the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Agriculture (USDA); and more than 70 local health districts and departments.

The complex division of regulatory authority over food safety is confusing for all involved.

Connecticut's agricultural producers, processors, and handlers affected by these new rules need assistance, first through education about the details of the regulatory changes and new requirements, and then through financial support to help defray costly upgrades to equipment and procedures needed to achieve compliance and remain in business.

The National Shellfish Sanitation Program and the Pasteurized Milk Ordinance are examples of federal regulations successfully enforced at the state level through DoAg working in close cooperation with FDA.

While other regulatory agencies and organizations have involvement in preventing food-borne illness risks associated with consumption of these products, DoAg effectively serves as the lead.

Designating DoAg as the lead responsible for regulating food production, processing, handling, and transport in Connecticut will improve and streamline communication, cooperation, and compliance.

Enhance educational/training programs for Connecticut agricultural producers.

Hands-on, practical courses in various aspects of farming and agriculture are limited in Connecticut.

The council has heard from numerous farmers that their business growth is restricted by a lack of available employees skilled in areas such as food safety, pest and disease management, marketing, business planning and management, among others.

Meanwhile, Connecticut has invested heavily in infrastructure at its 19 agricultural science and technology centers (ASTCs) located at high schools throughout Connecticut.

These facilities teach a variety of practical courses in agriculture including agricultural mechanics, aquaculture, and agribusiness, but remain underutilized due to staffing limitations.

As a result, many students remain on waiting lists for admission. Further, the facilities are empty most evenings, when they could be used to teach current farmers or those interested in entering the field.

Representatives from ConnSCU, Nonnewaug ASTC, and DoAg met in May 2014 to follow up on the findings and suggestions of the GCAD's Producer Education and Innovation working group.

As a result of that meeting, two non-credit pilot agricultural courses were offered at Nonnewaug during the fall of 2014 in association with Naugatuck Valley Community College.

The goal for 2015 is to begin developing for-credit certificate programs.

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Plan, design and create an agricultural innovation center to research, develop and teach state-of-the-art controlled environment production models that will enhance Connecticut farmers' opportunities for long-term economic success and expand consumer access to fresh, healthful Connecticut Grown foods year round.

Connecticut residents currently spend only 2.5 percent of their food dollars on Connecticut Grown products.

Despite its relatively northern latitude and short growing season, Connecticut has existing infrastructure to significantly increase year-round, indoor production of food, and thereby increase sales of in-state products.

The Connecticut Greenhouse Growers Association estimates that Connecticut has an estimated 300 commercial greenhouse businesses with 8 million square feet of production space.

The Netherlands leads the way in its knowledge of and technology for controlled-environment agriculture, despite its highest-in-the-world population density and its northern latitude.

Connecticut can and should use this international model as a foundation on which to ramp up its controlled-environment technology, which is well suited to Connecticut's existing fruit and vegetable growers, dairy and other livestock farmers looking to diversify and/or transition to expand and strengthen their businesses, and its existing greenhouse operations.

Fortify the Department of Agriculture's existing Connecticut Grown marketing efforts to provide additional resources to both farmers and consumers.

DoAg's Bureau of Agricultural Development and Resource Preservation includes five agricultural marketing and inspection representative positions, responsible for administration of numerous grant, farmers' market, and other programs in addition to Connecticut Grown marketing.

Currently, there is no General Fund appropriation in the state budget for marketing of Connecticut Grown farm products.

The Community Investment Act provides \$25,000 per quarter for Connecticut Grown marketing, which supports a multitude of ongoing initiatives, including the Farm-to-School and Farm-to-Chef programs along with a variety of Connecticut Grown promotions including radio campaigns, brochures, website listings and information, costumes, farm maps, crop calendars, logo-themed giveaways, and more.

Strengthening the agency with additional resources for Connecticut Grown marketing efforts will help provide the level of service warranted by today's unparalleled demand for locally-grown farm products.

The full update and reports from previous years can be viewed at: www.GrowConnecticutFarms.com

Advertising Rates: Fifteen or fewer words: \$3.75 per insertion. More than 15 words: 25 cents per word per insertion. Ads must be related to agriculture in Connecticut and are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Payment must be received by noon on Friday before publication the following Wednesday. Make check or money order payable to the Connecticut Dept. of Agriculture, and mail copy and remittance to the department at 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106. For more information contact Jane.Slupecki@ct.gov or call 860-713-2588.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the
Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106.
Print subscriptions expire Dec. 31, 2015.

VOL. XCV, No. 15, April 14, 2015

CONNECTICUT GROWN SALES ITEMS AVAILABLE

All items listed below are available for pick-up only on Wednesday, April 22, from 7 a.m.-4 p.m. at Hartford Regional Market, A Building, 101 Reserve Road, Hartford, CT.

• Tents

10' x 10' King Canopy steel frame, instant pop-up tent. White with full color Connecticut Grown logo on all four sides. Tents are available to farmers, farmers' markets, agricultural organizations and agricultural non-profits. Limit 2 per organization.

Tents must be pre-paid in full prior to scheduled pick-up. VISA/MC/Discover accepted. Shipping not available.

To purchase, visit www.ConnecticutGrownStore.com, click on Farmers Only, or www.connecticutgrownstore.com/Connecticut-Grown-Tent-CTGRO012.htm



• Plastic Bags

White plastic bags with full color Connecticut Grown logo. \$55 per case of 1,000 bags, payable by check only.

• Point-of-Purchase Signs

5" x 7" cards with Connecticut Grown logo and designated place to identify products for sale and the producing farm. 50 cards per pad.

Free – Limited Quantities



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OF AGRICULTURE**
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